

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH
THE WHITE HOUSE FLASH

S E C R E T SECTO 3044

N O D I S C H E R O K E E

WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESIDENT AND DR. BRZEZINSKI FROM SECY VANCE

DEPARTMENT FOR ACTING SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) PFOR, UR
SUBJECT: SALT DISCUSSION (5)

1. THIS MORNING GROYMKO AND I COMPLETED THE DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA COVERING BERLIN, CYPRUS AND THE BELGRADE CONFERENCES, AS WELL AS NON-USE OF FORCE, ANTI-SATELLITE MEASURES, CIVIL DEFENSE, A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE, CHEMICAL WEAPONS LIMITATION AND PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MISSILE TEST FIRINGS. NOTHING NEW OF SUBSTANCE EMERGED, BUT SOVIETS DID AGREE TO A MEETING OF EXPERTS ON ANTI-SATELLITES, CIVIL DEFENSE, AND PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MISSILE TEST FIRINGS. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ACTIONS AGAINST SATELLITES WERE, INDEED, A REAL PROBLEM. THOUGH GROYMKO INITIALLY ARGUED THAT CIVIL DEFENSE WAS NOT RELATED TO STRATEGIC STABILITY, HE SAID THEY WERE NOT AFRAID OF A DISCUSSION BY EXPERTS.

2. ON BERLIN, HE MADE HIS EXPECTED PROTESTS AND I RESPONDED BY LISTING UNACCEPTABLE ACTION OF E. GERMANS. WE ENDED BY REAFFIRMING IMPORTANCE OF OBSERVING THE FOUR-POWER
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AGREEMENT. ON CYPRUS, I GAVE GROMYKO A REVIEW OF THE CLIFFORD MISSION, AND WE AGREED THAT A SOLUTION WAS IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST. THE EXCHANGE ON BELGRADE WAS NOTABLE ONLY FOR GROMYKO'S OBVIOUS ATTEMPT TO PLAY IT DOWN.

3. ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, WE AGREED TO CONTINUE THE TALKS

IN GENEVA, BUT ON THE WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE AND NON-USE OF FORCE, WE SIMPLY EXCHANGED STATEMENTS. I EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF DEALING WITH CONCRETE ISSUES OF ARMS CONTROL--SALT AND THE VIENNA TALKS--RATHER THAN ABSTRUSE ISSUES.

4. GROMYKO ALSO BROUGHT UP HOW DEEPLY THE SOVIETS WERE HURT BY US HANDLING OF THE MIG-25 THAT WAS FLOWN TO JAPAN LAST YEAR. HE EMPHASIZED THE BLOW TO MUTUAL CONFIDENCE CAUSED BY US ACTION IN TAKING APART THE AIRCRAFT. I NOTED THAT THIS HAD BEEN RAISED WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND THAT HE AND BREZHNEV HAD EXCHANGED LETTERS ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. I CONCLUDED BY RAISING YOUR PROPOSAL FOR NOTIFICATION, AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE, OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF ICBM TEST LAUNCHES. HE SAID THEY DO ANNOUNCE TESTS OUTSIDE THEIR TERRITORY, AND INDICATED THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTERNAL TESTS BUT ONLY IF THERE WAS CAUSE FOR POSSIBLE HARM OR CONCERN. WE AGREED TO DISCUSS IN GENEVA AT S.C.C.

6. AFTER LUNCH I MET ALONE WITH GROMYKO TO DISCUSS REUNITING DIVIDED FAMILIES. I LEFT HIM TWO LISTS (ONE OF THOSE WHO WANTED TO EMIGRATE TO THE US AND A SECOND OF THOSE WHO WANT TO GO TO ISRAEL). HE SAID THAT HE WOULD TAKE THEM UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT WOULD MAKE NO CONCRETE PROMISES AT THIS TIME ABOUT THE MATTER. I ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF TERMINATING ALL FORMS OF RADIATION BEING DIRECTED AT THE EMBASSY. AS YOU KNOW,
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THE RADIATION IS DOWN BUT IS CONTINUING, BUT I STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF STOPPING IT COMPLETELY. AFTER SEEKING TO MINIMIZE THE PROBLEM, GROMYKO SAID THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER. I THEN DISCUSSED THE ISSUE OF TRADE, AND I REPEATED YOUR DESIRE TO ULTIMATELY MOVE TOWARD MFN TREATMENT, PROVIDED THE ATMOSPHERE IS CHANGED BY SOVIET ACTIONS. I INDICATED THAT THIS COULD TAKE TIME AND THAT I DID NOT WANT TO MISLEAD HIM BY PREDICTING WHEN CONGRESS WOULD CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE TO ACT ON THE MATTER. GROMYKO REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FULLY AND THAT ANYTHING WE COULD DO ON MFN WOULD BE A POSITIVE FACTOR IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND WOULD BE IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
VANCE

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